

Welcome to Beautiful Savior!

Address: 5631 North Adams Road,

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

Phone: 248.646.5041 Web Site: www.bslcmi.org

IN JESUS'S NAME, WE:

Bring Glory to God through fulfilling worship.

Serve God's people, both within our congregation and without.

Learn about the Lord's will for us through sharing and teaching.

Connect within our membership and reach out to connect with others.

Acts: The Early Church Story "Saul: The Transformation of the Professional Christian Killer" July 3, 2022 9:00 a.m.

Saul, who we also know as the Apostle Paul, was originally a professional killer of Christians. He traveled to synagogues looking to arrest followers of 'The Way,' which was an early designation for the believers. During one such trip to Damascus, Jesus appeared to him on the road, spoke to him, and Saul was blinded for three days. Saul subsequently placed his faith in Jesus. This story is an important reminder that even the most ardent opponents of Jesus's message still have hope of believing in him.

P: Pastor

C: Congregation

A: Assistant Minister

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Altar Flowers in honor of the baptism of Skylar Michelle Doepke

GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Matthew H. Corl

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Please kneel as you are able during a time of silence for reflection and self-examination.)

- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P: Merciful God,
- C: we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.
- P: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.
- C: Amen.

THE GREETING

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

(Please stand as you are able.)

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heav'n.

There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment giv'n.

There is welcome for the sinner, and a promised grace made good; there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
But we make this love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify its strictness with a zeal God will not own.

'Tis not all we owe to Jesus; it is something more than all: greater good because of evil, larger mercy through the fall. Make our love, O God, more faithful; let us take you at your word, and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: Let us pray. O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the parent who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: Amen.

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR MISSION STATEMENT

- P: Although as individuals we are unique in many and various ways, we gather as a congregation for a common mission.
- C: In Jesus's name, we:

<u>Bring Glory to God through fulfilling worship,</u>
<u>Serve God's people, both within our congregation and without,</u>
<u>Learn about the Lord's will for us through sharing and teaching, and</u>
<u>Connect within our membership and reach out to connect with others.</u>

(Please be seated.)

MEMORY VERSE John 16:13a Laura Hall

A: Together, let us recite the memory verse:

C: When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears.

INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST READING

FIRST READING

Acts 9:1-19b

A: The first reading is from the book of Acts, the nineth chapter.

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. 8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel: ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus.

A: The word of the Lord.C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

VERSE



GOSPEL *Luke* 23:39-43

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated.)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Karyn Parker, Children's Ministries Coordinator

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Niklaus C. Schillack, Senior Pastor

"Saul: The Transformation of the Professional Christian Killer"

(Please stand as you are able.)

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace; in ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood; when all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found, clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

(Please stand as you are able.)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need. *A brief silence*.

- A: Lord of the harvest, you send your church into the world to proclaim Christ's new creation to all. Renew the church as it carries out your mission of peace and healing. We pray for missionaries who accompany your people. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.
- A: Your creation abounds with flowing waters and diverse creatures. Guide the work of scientists as they develop and advocate ways to restore earth's natural balance. Motivate humankind to adopt lifestyles that protect and sustain the earth. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.

A: You guard the nations; let no leaders exalt themselves, but lift up the most vulnerable and work for the good of all. Send your Spirit to eradicate inequity, violence, war, poverty, and hunger. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You desire abundant life for all. As we celebrate Independence Day, instill in us gratitude, generosity, and persistence in working toward freedom for all people (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Compassionate God, you care for all people in need. Nourish those who are hungry. Restore employment to those who have lost work. Heal those who are sick, and comfort all who are dying or grieving (especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts). God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We remember the saints who proclaimed your reign on earth and now rest in you (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). Make us faithful in our witness to Christ's new creation. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of every time and place, in Jesus's name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

What is the Sharing of the Peace?

The sharing of the peace is more than a time to say, "Hello." It is an ancient tradition, dating back to the time of Jesus. Its purpose is to provide us with a chance to be at peace with one another before sharing Holy Communion. Also, it reminds us that Jesus brings us closer together in Holy Communion, and that the unity he gives is stronger than anything that can divide us.

How Do We Share the Peace?

At their own discretion, people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you" or "God's peace." Afterwards, we are seated for the offering.

(Please be seated.)

STEWARDSHIP READING

Luke 12:33

(Jesus said,) "Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys."

OFFERING "Voluntary in A" Anonymous

(Please stand as you are able.)

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Together, let us pray:

C: God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray ...
- C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

HOLY COMMUNION

"You Are Mine"

Matthew Corl

POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

(Please stand as you are able.)

PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

- P: Together, let us pray:
- C: Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

BLESSING

- P: The God of peace, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.
- C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Patriotic Medley"

America! America! God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain:
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from ev'ry mountainside let freedom ring!

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord; he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored; he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword: his truth is marching on. Glory, glory! Hallelujah!

Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

SOLO:

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me. As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free, while God is marching on.

CONGREGATION:

Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

America! America! God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C: We will! Thanks be to God!

P: And next time ...

C: ... we'll invite a friend!

POSTLUDE

"The Star-Spangled Banner"

Mary McDonald

We thank you for worshiping with us today.

We hope to worship with you again in the near future!

Many thanks to all those on our tech team for making this livestream worship possible.

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HELPFUL INFORMATION

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES – The 9:00 & 11:15 a.m. worship services will be livestreamed through our website and YouTube pages. People can gather with us in the Sanctuary at 9 a.m. to worship in a more traditional style in person. We offer a more contemporary style worship service at 11:15 a.m. People can also worship in their homes with the livestream at 9 or 11:15 a.m., as well as access the recording of either service any time after worship concludes.

On the third Sundays of the month, we will offer a Service of the Word for Wholeness at 10:15 in our Chapel. This twenty-minute service gives you an opportunity to receive and give support for wholeness and strength. The Word will be spoken with laying on of hands and anointing with oil. We will pray for those in need by name, receive personal prayer, and share in the fellowship of others in need.

PowerPoint

Gwen Fitzgerald

July 3

SERVING THIS MONTH

Laura Hall

Readers
July 3

	July 10	Bob Hoffman	July 10	Nancy Geik
	July 17	Dennis Eurich	July 17	Tim Jehowski
	July 24	Lori Calbeck	July 24	Chuck Biebelhausen
	July 31	Lisa Wade	July 31	Karen Brant
<u>Ushers</u>		Communion Assistants		
	July 3	Ann Hussar & Ray Green	July 3	D. Eurich/K. Eurich/S. Siems
	July 3 July 10	Ann Hussar & Ray Green Ann Hussar & Ray Green	July 3 July 10	D. Eurich/K. Eurich/S. SiemsB. Hoffman & K/C Biebelhausen
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	July 10	Ann Hussar & Ray Green	July 10	B. Hoffman & K/C Biebelhausen

STAFF MEMBERS

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The Rev. Dr. Philip Hemke, Pastor Emeritus

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